

What should I keep in mind when choosing a pediatrician?

Parents are encouraged to look for a pediatrician prior to giving birth to their child. If there are medical concerns with your newborn upon their birth, parents will most likely feel more comfortable and confident knowing the physician that will be treating their child. Sometimes, the best way to start this process is by asking someone who is familiar with the doctors in the community, whether it be family members, friends, or another medical professional. Parents are encouraged to search for a board certified doctor and will need to check to make sure that the pediatrician is covered by their insurance provider.

Once parents have the name of a doctor they are interested in, it's suggested that they request a preliminary visit to get to know the doctor and ask questions about their practicing methods and philosophy of treatment. Parents are encouraged to ask questions regarding which hospitals the doctor is associated with and whether the pediatrician is able to treat their child in the event that they are hospitalized. Inquire about after hours calls and whether there is an answering service or a triage nurse that handles these phone calls. Parents should also ask about office procedures and hours of operation. Picking a physician for your child is an important decision for parents, which requires a little extra work in order to ensure the perfect fit for you and your family.